

# PRESS RELEASE

August 2, 2006

**RE: UNITED STATES v. RICO L. FREEMAN**

United States Attorney Terrance P. Flynn announced today the return of an indictment charging RICO L. FREEMAN, age 22, of 15 Tudor Lane, Lockport, New York, with possessing 5 grams or more of cocaine base, or crack cocaine, with the intent to distribute it, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a) and 841(b)(1)(B), which carries a minimum term of imprisonment of 5 years, a maximum term of imprisonment of 40 years, and/or a \$2,000,000 fine. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. **(Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)).**

Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph J. Karaszewski stated that the defendant is charged with having possessed approximately 22 grams of crack cocaine on August 27, 2004. It was discovered at defendant's residence on 324 Washburn Street in Lockport when the City of Lockport Police, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department,

the New York State Police, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement executed a search warrant there. During the search, law enforcement officers also discovered a loaded .25 caliber automatic pistol hidden in the doorbell cover.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the City of Lockport Police Department, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department, the New York State Police, and the Niagara County District Attorney's Office all participated in the investigation.